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SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

February 2, 2015

Dear Russian River Watershed Interested Party,

Sonoma County Water Agency, USGS and Scripps Institution of Oceanography are working on a NOAA funded project to better understand how drought affects the Russian River Watershed. The objectives of the study are to understand the impacts of drought with respect to the various communities and the environment. We are asking for information from stakeholders and interested parties throughout the watershed. It is our intention that the results will be used for planning purposes and the development of operational and actionable measures for resource managers. The answers will also be used in helping to develop a "mega-drought" planning scenario to be run through a hydrological model to predict how the watershed and management systems will respond.

Once we have the results we would like to share them with you and also ask for your feedback on possible drought mitigation strategies. With your help, we will develop a better understanding of how drought affects the Russian River Watershed and provide information that will assist you with drought mitigation efforts. Thank you for your help with the study. We really appreciate your time and ideas.

Sincerely,

Julie Kalansky

Julie Kalansky

Researcher at Scripps
Institution of Oceanography
jkalansky@ucsd.edu
858-534-3327

DROUGHT
RUSSIAN RIVER WATERSHED STAKEHOLDERS INPUT

We are asking for your help to develop a more comprehensive understanding of how drought affects the different stakeholders within the Russian River Watershed. In order to do this, please answer the questions below. Our intention is that by being able to understand drought from your perspective we can develop better actionable and operational management measures and provide better data to assist in drought planning and mitigation. We appreciate your time and feedback. Thank you!

Please return the questionnaire to jkalansky@ucsd.edu.

Name: Agency or Association:

Phone Number: Email:

1. Does your municipality, agency or group have a definition of drought? If so, what is the definition of drought used? (ex: Lake Mendocino storage level, lowered groundwater levels, below average rainfall)?

2. How do the effects of acute droughts (short and extremely dry) differ from those of more prolonged (several years, but not as dry) droughts? Is one type more challenging? If so, how?

3. Does drought in a particular season affect you more? If so, which season and why?

4. Do temperatures play a role in determining the impacts of drought on your municipality, agency or group?

5. What have been the impacts of the current, 2011-2014, drought?

6. If the current drought continues through 2015, what are the likely impacts?

7. What is the worst drought that you know of impacting you or your municipality, agency or group? Which past droughts have affected planning by your municipality, agency or group? Which past droughts do you recall?

8. What are your greatest vulnerabilities to droughts?

   a. Do these change if the temperature is warmer? If so, how?

   b. Do these change if the drought is more acute or more prolonged? If so, how?

9. How does the status of a drought affect your decision making process?

10. During the most recent drought, has the information provided by federal, state, and local government agencies been helpful to assist you in addressing impacts of drought and managing decreased water supplies?

11. What role should local, state, and federal government have in responding to drought?

12. Which types of drought information would be most useful?
    (one being the least informative and 5 being the most informative)

	Least ---------- Most				
Runoff (Stream flow):	☐1	☐2	☐3	☐4	☐5
Recharge:	☐1	☐2	☐3	☐4	☐5
Soil Water Content:	☐1	☐2	☐3	☐4	☐5
Climate Water Deficit:	☐1	☐2	☐3	☐4	☐5
Lake Pillsbury Storage Level:	☐1	☐2	☐3	☐4	☐5
Lake Mendocino Storage Level:	☐1	☐2	☐3	☐4	☐5
Storage for Marin Municipal:	☐1	☐2	☐3	☐4	☐5
Lake Sonoma Level:	☐1	☐2	☐3	☐4	☐5
Temperature:	☐1	☐2	☐3	☐4	☐5
Ground water levels:	☐1	☐2	☐3	☐4	☐5
Wildfire risk:	☐1	☐2	☐3	☐4	☐5
Other?					